Statewide Fingerprint Imaging System (SFIS)

County Acceptance Tests in Merced and Colusa

On March 9 & 10, 2000, Merced and Colusa Counties participated as the first counties to test the brand new Statewide Fingerprint Imaging System. The event drew a crowd of attendees, including:

- HHSDC - Jon Sorrels and Dave Sakauye.
- EDS - Dawn Wilder, Wesley Crews, and Geoff Costner.
- CDSS Fraud Bureau - Lesley Bell, Deanna Marino, and Patricia Echevarria.
- CWDA - Konnie Lewin.

In Merced, County staff participating in the tests included: Rhonda Walton, Scott Pettygrove, Van Vanderzyde, Chris Magsalay, Houston Williamson, Pam Goza (SFIS Coordinator and TRT Member), Sharon Hassler, Laura Saunders, Elvia Avila, JoAnn Tweed, Veronica Moreno, Jamie Shaw, Amy de la Torre, and Myly Vang.

In Colusa, participating County staff included Bonnie Marshall (Director), Myra Leber (SFIS Coordinator and TRT Member), Rose Tanner, Mary Raj, Carina Padilla, Estella Kittle, Dave Marks, Steve McCulloch, Hilda Aguayo, Suzie Azevedo, Sharon Carvalho, and Sandy Morgan.

(See photographs on p. 2.)

Q and A

Q. Please define "open" and "closed" searches.
A. *An open search is a search of an applicant's fingerprints against the entire SFIS database to determine if the applicant has an existing record. A closed search matches the applicant's fingerprints only against the corresponding SFIS record to verify the applicant's claim of identity.*

Q. I have just received an open search hit from the verifier at the Central Site. What does that mean?
A. *SFIS has detected a duplicate record in the database, indicating that the applicant is already registered in the system and has received aid.*
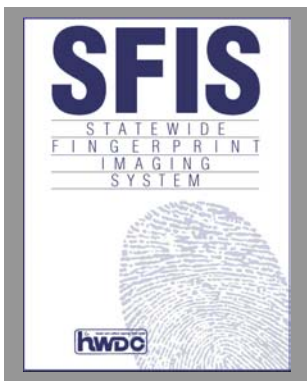
The specific response to the hit notification is a county procedure. Some counties will send all hits directly to the Fraud Investigator. Other counties may elect to have an intermediate review to eliminate hits resulting from administrative errors prior to creating a fraud referral. In either case, all SFIS duplicate record matches will be made available to the county's Special Investigative Unit for review. The county cannot deny or discontinue without a follow-up investigation to verify a duplicate aid situation detected by SFIS. Once verified, the applicant/recipient must be provided proper notice of denial or discontinuance.

Although not specifically required, when SFIS finds a duplicate record, the county may seek an explanation from the client, particularly if that client is requesting CalWORKs Immediate Need or Food Stamps Expedited Service.

Q. Once a hit report is printed for the eligibility worker or fraud investigative unit, would there be an automatic deletion?
A. *There will not be any purging.*

Phase I Counties now in Production

On March 21, all Phase I counties were in production. The Phase 1 counties are Colusa, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter and Yuba.

This means that all county workstations are installed and operational, that all training has been completed, and that the SFIS is in full productive use in these Phase 1 locations.

The first counties to actually go live were Solano and Stanislaus Counties.

SFIS
STATEWIDE FINGERPRINT IMAGING SYSTEM
hwdc

California HHSDC SFIS Project – 8745 Folsom Blvd, Suite 140 Sacramento, CA 95826

SFIS County Acceptance Tests, March 9th and 10th.

Colusa County

Merced County

Any questions regarding the newsletter, contact Jenna Williams, jwilli10@sid.hhsdc.ca.gov

CWDA and the California Department of Social Services Fraud Bureau were represented in both Merced and Colusa Counties.

HHSDC
California Health & Human Services Agency Data Center